

Frequently Asked E85 Questions

Am I required to use E85 if I am driving an E85, flexible fueled state vehicle and it is available?

Yes and No.

Yes because doing so helps fleet agencies progress toward the goals of Governor Quinn's Executive Order 11—2009, which states, in part, agencies will take reasonable actions to achieve a 20 percent reduction in petroleum use in fleet. The use of E85 and other sustainable biofuels such as biodiesel in fleet does, just that.

No because if you can't locate an E85 pump, it's ok to use regular gasohol.

Why is Illinois fleet required to use E85 fuel?

Primarily cost and the environment. E85 usually costs less than gasoline, even when taking into consideration the energy content or BTU's in E85 are lower than that of conventional gasoline by 15-20%. The miles per gallon difference is usually more than offset by the lower price per gallon for E85.

How does using E85 help the environment?

E85 produces about 20% fewer hydrocarbon emissions. Air quality and enhanced health are real benefits of sustainable fuels such as E85, these benefits are just not as easily quantified in dollars and cents.

What do you mean by sustainable?

Sustainable relates to the availability of a fuel source. Relying on fuel produced from domestic agricultural products is more stable than relying on finite resources of petroleum that have to be imported.

I'm not sure E85 stations are not always on my work route, can you help?

There are over 200 stations in Illinois selling E85 fuel that accept the state's fleet fuel card. Planning ahead to find E85 fuel sites on your work route from the map at green.illinois.gov helps fleet achieve its petroleum reduction goals.

Where can I find E85 fuel in my area?

For a map and listing of station locations in Illinois go to www.Green.Illinois.Gov

For any fuel type it is recommended you confirm availability and fleet card acceptance prior to purchase.

I'd heard that I will have problems if I switch fuel in my agencies E85 car between gas and E85, is that true?

If it is necessary to switch fuels between E85 and gasohol, add as much fuel as possible (half tanks are ideal) when refueling for best performance and drive the vehicle at least 5 miles for optimum adaptation of the fuel mixture. If you use E85 fuel exclusively, it is recommended to fill the tank with regular gasohol at each scheduled oil change interval. If you experience drivability problems with an E85, Flexible Fueled vehicle, report them to the nearest state garage. The garage may reach out to the nearest vehicle dealer to help find a solution.

Thank you for using E85